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were filled with broken rock or earth and a covering of cement placed over the filling.

Throughout the work one thing that impressed us was the fact that the majority of collections of water on the ground were man made. For example: Many small swamps were due to an overflowing or leaky cesspool; pools in streets were often due to broken water pipes; a swampy yard was often caused by the waste water from a wash-house. Breeding places due to seepage from natural causes were rare.

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## TREATMENT OF VESSELS ARRIVING AT NEW YORK FROM WEST INDIAN AND SOUTH AMERICAN PORTS.

The health officer of the port of New York has issued the following special order to boarding officers at that port regarding the treatment of vessels coming from ports in the West Indies and South America:

### SPECIAL ORDER TO BOARDING OFFICERS RELATIVE TO BUBONIC PLAGUE.

All passengers and members of crews on vessels entering this port from Porto Rican ports, Haitian ports, and ports in the West Indies and in South America to the southerly of Porto Rico, shall be individually examined with the utmost care for symptoms of bubonic plague.

All hides, including animal skins of every character, carried as cargo on such vessels shall be subjected to disinfection in accordance with general order No. 30, if practicable, on board the vessel at quarantine.

All holds of vessels entering this port from ports on the island of Porto Rico, the island of Trinidad and the port of La Guaira, Venezuela, shall be subjected to disinfection, after the discharge of all cargo therefrom, in this port by a representative of this department or under the direction and supervision of this department. For this purpose the provisions of general order No. 29 are hereby extended with respect to such vessels so as to provide for disinfection after every voyage. If the existence on board of perishable merchandise, liable to serious damage by the use of disinfectants, shall make the fumigation of hides at quarantine impracticable, the master of such vessel shall, before being admitted to pratique, sign a written agreement to submit such hides to fumigation at the dock, after the discharge of such parts of his cargo as may be liable to injury from the use of fumigants, and no vessel from ports on the island of Porto Rico, the island of Trinidad, and the port of La Guaira, Venezuela, shall be admitted to pratique until the master of such vessel shall have signed a written agreement to submit the hold of his vessel to fumigation after the discharge of his cargo, and to notify this department of the readiness of his vessel for such disinfection.

This order will remain in effect until the amelioration of plague conditions at the ports mentioned, and adjoining ports shall justify its modification.

JOSEPH J. O'CONNELL,  
*Health Officer, Port of New York.*

June 20, 1912.